

Mary MARRS Collection of Erath County, Texas Photographs, circa 1890-1912: A Guide

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Mary MARRS

Title: Mary MARRS Collection of Erath County, Texas Photographs, circa 1890-1912

Inclusive Dates: circa 1890-1912

Abstract: The collection consists of 22 photographs of Erath County, Texas, 19 of which are related to schools. Two photographs show the First Baptist Church of Stephenville, Texas in 1899 and the early 1900s. Another photograph is of 22 Erath County Civil War veterans.

Identification: AR24

Extent: 0.28 cubic feet

Shelf location: Off-site, 6:C:4

Language(s): Collection is in English.

Repository: Tarleton State University, Dick Smith Library, Archives and Special Collections, Stephenville, Texas

Biographical Note

Mary Edith MARRS was born in Victor, West Virginia on February 16, 1883. Her parents, Francis Marion MARRS and Catherine Lloyd Paddleford MARRS, had a total of two daughters and five sons. The family moved to Stephenville, Texas in 1892. They followed two of Mary's brothers, Arch Marshall MARRS and Starlin Marion Newberry (S.M.N.) MARRS, who had previously moved to Texas. S.M.N. MARRS was State Superintendent of Public Instruction for many years.

Mary was a student at John Tarleton College in 1899, the year the school first opened. She graduated from North Texas Normal and later received a B.A. from North Texas State College.

MARRS began a long career in education by teaching in Erath and Ellis Counties in Texas. She first taught at Palmer School in Ellis County. From 1903 to 1904 she taught at Bunyan School. She taught at the Stephenville Public School (also known as the Old Rock School) from 1905-1912. While teaching at Stephenville High School, she helped them achieve accreditation. During her four years as Erath County school superintendent, she worked on the State Textbook committee and aided in the consolidation of many of the smaller schools in the county.

In 1923 MARRS joined the mathematics faculty of John Tarleton Agricultural College. During her time at Tarleton, she taught Dick Smith, Zeddie Edgar, H.W. Leach, Autis McMahan, Reuben Friou, and Gerald Fanning, all of whom later became faculty members themselves. MARRS retired from Tarleton on July 1, 1952 as assistant professor.

MARRS was a member of the First Baptist Church in Stephenville, Order of Eastern Star, Tarleton Campus Club, and Stephenville Branch of the American Association of University Women. She died on October 15, 1953 in Dallas, Texas after a long illness. She was buried in West End Cemetery in Stephenville, Texas.

Sources:

The J-TAC, (Stephenville, Tex.), Tuesday, September 16, 1952.

The Stephenville Daily Empire, (Stephenville, Tex.), Thursday, October 15, 1953.

The Dallas Morning News, (Dallas, Tex.), Friday, October 16, 1953.

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of 22 photographs of Erath County, Texas, 19 of which are related to schools. Two photographs show the First Baptist Church of Stephenville, Texas in 1899 and the early 1900s. Another photograph is of 22 Erath County Civil War veterans. Most of the photographs are originals and many list names of individuals shown. Some photographs are undated and a few have no identification.

The photographs are included in the Cross Timbers Historical Images Project (accessed at <https://www.tarleton.edu/library/crosstimbers/>) and are identified in this collection with the call number from the digital collection.

Organization

The Mary Marrs Collection of Erath County, Texas Photographs is organized in three series:

Series I. School related photographs

Series II. First Baptist Church of Stephenville, Texas

Series III. Civil War veterans

Rights and Access

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Physical Access Restrictions

Physical access to the collection is restricted due to the fragile condition of some of the original photographs. Special permission to view the original photographs may be granted by either the archivist or the library director. Digital copies may be accessed at the Cross Timbers Historical Images Project (<https://www.tarleton.edu/library/crosstimbers/>).

Technical Access Restrictions

None.

Publication Rights

The photographs are in public domain.

Index Terms

Persons

Disharoon, Edith Catherine Jones, 1891-1959

Ferguson, Nina Laney

Marrs, Arch Marshall (A. M.), 1869-1940

Marrs, Mary Edith, 1883-1953

Mills, Lundie Frank

Strickland, J. M.

Dr. J.B. McGauhy, J.C. Wright, J.A. Cherry. Second row left to right- W.H. Pate, G.W. Lidia, W.P. Orr, John Martin, W.P. Chapman, F.M. Harris (Man standing on far right). Third row left to right: Mac D. Reid, G.L. McIlhaney, N. McLaughlin, James Collins, W.R. Wolverton, J.L. Bird. Fourth row left to right- J. Matt Robertson, T.B. Tudor, A.L. Murphy, A.C. McAlister, J.F. Henderson, J.J. Mars. Bottom row- J.A. Buntin, --Bassett, Mack Wilson, J.A. Shelton.

Organizations

First Baptist Church (Stephenville, Tex.)

Subjects

Alexander School – Students

Bunyan School – Students

Church buildings – First Baptist Church of Stephenville, Texas

Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Veterans

Heavenly Branch School – Students

Men – Texas – Erath County

Palmer School – Students

School buildings – Alexander School

School buildings – Bunyan School

School buildings – Heavenly Branch School

School buildings – Stephenville High School

School buildings – Stephenville Old Rock School

School buildings – Palmer School

School buildings – Stephenville Public School

Schoolhouses

Stephenville High School – Students

Students -- Texas

Women – Texas – Erath County

Places

Erath County (Tex.) – History

Stephenville (Tex.) – History

Alternate Titles

Cross Timbers Historical Images Project

Administrative Information

Provenance

Unknown

Preferred Citation

Mary Marrs Collection of Erath County, Texas Photographs, AR 24, [Box no.], [Folder no.], [Series number], Tarleton State University, Dick Smith Library, Archives and Special Collections, Stephenville, Texas.

Processing Information

Finding aid prepared by Phyllis Kinnison, 2018. Revised by Amanda Pape on August 31, 2018.

Related Collections [enter as many as applicable]

The photographs are included in the **Cross Timbers Historical Images Project** (accessed at <https://www.tarleton.edu/library/crosstimbers/>) and are identified in this collection with the call number from the digital collection.

Obituaries for Mary Marrs may be accessed in the Faculty/Staff files in the Tarleton Room, Special Collections Limited Room, Dick Smith Library, Tarleton State University.

Note to the Researcher

The collection is processed, but advance notice is required with time allowed to retrieve them before conducting research. There may be occasions when staffing or weather conditions may prevent retrieval of the records. The photographs have been digitized and may be accessed at the Cross Timbers Historical Images Project (<https://www.tarleton.edu/library/crosstimbers/>). For more information, contact Librarian/Archivist Phyllis Kinnison at pkinnison@tarleton.edu.

Photograph List

NOTE: For preservation purposes, the photographs are arranged in the box by size (larger items on bottom, smaller on top) rather than by photograph call number.

<u>Photograph Call Number</u>	<u>Photograph Title and Description (with dates)</u>
<u>DS000004</u>	Group of people posing on steps. Sepia photograph (5"x7") mounted on dark gray cardboard, undated.
<u>DS000005</u>	Sims' room in Stephenville High School. Sepia photograph (5"x7") mounted on black cardboard, undated.
<u>DS000006</u>	Stephenville Old Rock School, Grade 5. Sepia photograph (5"x7") mounted on gray cardboard, undated. Many of the individuals are identified on the back (see DS000007).
<u>DS000007</u>	Back of photograph- Stephenville Old Rock School, Grade 5 (see DS000006).
<u>DS000009</u>	Stephenville Old Rock School buildings. Sepia photograph (5"x7") mounted on dark gray cardboard, 1905.
<u>DS000012</u>	Laying the corner stone of Stephenville Public School on November 28, 1907. Black and white photograph (4.75"x6") possibly a copy of the original. The women in the buggy are identified on the back and in the catalog record.
<u>DS000013</u>	Faculty of Stephenville Public School, 1912. Sepia picture post card (3.5"x5.5"). Small black sign in mid-ground on right of photograph identifies the group and provides the date.
<u>DS000014</u>	Second grade class, 1900-1901. Black and white copy (3.75"x5.5") of an original photograph. The students and teachers are numbered on the photograph with numbers and corresponding names listed on the back.
<u>DS000015</u>	Stephenville Rock School. Black and white copy (3.5"x5.75") of an original photograph. "For Mary" is written in pencil on the back, undated.
<u>DS000018</u>	Alexander School, J.M. Strickland's room. Sepia photograph (4.75"x7.75") mounted on tan cardboard, undated. See also DS000019.
<u>DS000019</u>	Back of photograph- Alexander School, J. M. Strickland's room (see DS000018).
<u>DS000022</u>	Alexander School, A.M. Marrs' room, ca. 1900. Sepia photograph (4.75"x7.75") mounted on tan cardboard, undated. See also DS000023.
<u>DS000023</u>	Back of photograph- Alexander School, A.M. Marrs' room, ca. 1900 (see DS000022).
<u>DS000024</u>	Heavenly Branch School, A.M. Marrs, teacher. Sepia photograph (4.25"x7.5") mounted on tan cardboard, undated. See also DS000025.
<u>DS000025</u>	Back of photograph- Heavenly Branch School, A.M. Marrs, teacher (see DS000024).
<u>DS000026</u>	Stephenville High School students (senior class) and teachers. Sepia picture post card (3.5"x5.5"), undated. The individuals are identified on the back. See also DS000027.
<u>DS000027</u>	Back of photograph- Stephenville High School Students (senior class) and teachers (see DS000026).
<u>DS000028</u>	Sixth grade, Stephenville. Sepia picture post card (3.5"x5.5"), undated.
<u>DS000029</u>	Stephenville Faculty. Sepia picture post card (3.5"x5.5"), undated. The individuals are identified on the back (see also DS000030).
<u>DS000030</u>	Back of photograph- Stephenville High School Faculty (see DS000029).

DS000031	Palmer School (Mary's first school). Sepia photograph (5.75"x8") mounted on tan cardboard, undated.
DS000032	Stephenville Public School, about 1905. Oval sepia photograph (4.75"x7") mounted on dark gray cardboard. The individuals are identified on the back (see also DS000033).
DS000033	Back of photograph of Stephenville Public School, about 1905 (see DS000032).
DS000034	Bunyan School, 1903-1904. Sepia photograph (3.75"x7.75") mounted on dark gray cardboard. Names of students and teachers listed on back along with the number enrolled and the number present that day. See also DS000035
DS000035	Back of photograph of Bunyan School, 1903-1904 (see DS000034).
DS000036	Group on Stairs, sitting. Sepia photograph (5"x7") mounted on dark brown cardboard, undated.
DS000037	Group 4- six people standing on steps. Sepia photograph (5"x7") mounted on black cardboard, undated.
DS000008	First Baptist Church of Stephenville, Texas. Sepia photograph (4.25"x6.5") mounted on tan cardboard, undated. "Tarleton Avenue" written in pencil on back.
DS000038	First Baptist Church of Stephenville, Texas, 1920. Sepia photograph (6"x8") mounted on tan cardboard. Note below the photograph was blurred by water damage. See also DS000039.
DS000039	Back of photograph- First Baptist Church, Stephenville, 1920 (see DS000038).
DS000071	Erath County Confederate Veterans, about 1908. Sepia photograph (8.25"x10") mounted on black cardboard. Most of the 22 veterans are identified on the back along with the note "Picture belongs to Mary Marrs, Stephenville, Texas."